Attorney Docket:

October 23, 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roman SCHERTLER

Serial No.: 08/962,776 Group Art Unit:

Filed: November 3, 1997 Examiner: I. ROSENBAUM

A VACUUM PROCESS APPARATUS

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115

PADEBOX Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is responsive to the Office Action dated August 22, 2000.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at column 5, line 45 in the manner shown on the attached sheet.

> The transport arm 5 carries at one end as conveyor portion a disk or plate 19 on which an article to be processed rests, in the illustrated example a CD or a magneto-optical storage disk 21, centered at the plate 19 by a central pin 17. As shown by broken lines the plate 19 at the supporting arm 5 can be moved back from its seat (illustrated) at the sealing frame 12 towards the rotation axis A and thus the lock may be opened at the side of the transport device. Because [3,5,19]the transport device comprised of the transport arm 5 and the conveyor plate 19 of the

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